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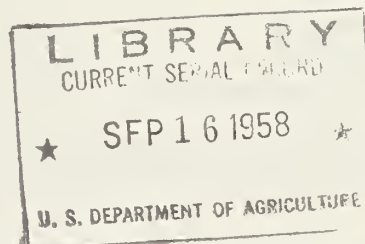
SEEDS



SEEDS
FFVS 2-58
May 15, 1958

OUTLOOK FOR YUGOSLAV FORAGE SEED PRODUCTION

APPEARS FAVORABLE FOR 1957-58 CROP YEAR



Summary

The main forage crop seeds grown in Yugoslavia are alfalfa, red clover, spring vetch, cowpeas, forage beets, and Hungarian millet (Mohar). Before World War II these seeds were exported in fairly large quantities, but since then exports have been irregular and alfalfa seed has been imported.

The outlook for seed production appears favorable since the inauguration of the 5-Year Plan which emphasizes forage and pasture production for increased livestock numbers. However, Yugoslavia also expects to produce sufficient seeds for export in larger quantities.

Clover and alfalfa seeds grown in Yugoslavia are in good demand outside the country. These seeds, known on foreign markets as "Panonian" seeds, are noted for their excellent germinating properties and their resistance to freezing. They sell well on Northern European markets, reportedly at a much higher price than similar seeds from other countries.

Production

Alfalfa seed production in 1957 was about 3 times that of the previous year, amounting to more than 3 million pounds of cleaned seed. This is expected to meet the domestic need and alfalfa seed is not expected to be imported.

Commercial production of about 3 million pounds of red clover and crimson clover seed provided more than 2 million pounds for export or carryout. Of this quantity, about 90 percent was red clover.

Forage Crop Seeds: Yugoslavian estimated supply and distribution,
1957-58

	: Alfalfa	: Red Clover <u>1/</u>	: Vetch	: Forage Peas	: Hungarian Millet
	: 1,000	: 1,000	: 1,000	: 1,000	: 1,000
	: <u>pounds</u>	: <u>pounds</u>	: <u>pounds</u>	: <u>pounds</u>	: <u>pounds</u>
Carry-over	: 220	: 661	: 331	: 220	: 441
Production	: 9,370	: 16,534	: 48,501	: 6,614	: 17,637
Imports	: 0	: 0	: 0	: 0	: 0
Total Supply	: 9,590	: 17,195	: 48,832	: 6,834	: 18,078
Consumption	: 9,370	: 12,787	: 46,627	: 6,173	: 17,196
Available for export:	: 220	: 4,408	: 2,205	: 661	: 882

1/ Includes about 10 percent crimson clover.

Forage Crop Seeds: Yugoslavia, approximate average prices per pound,
calendar year 1957 1/

Kind of Seed	: Prices to growers for rough seed	: Retail prices clean seed	: Export prices f.o.b. Yugoslav border <u>1/</u>
	: <u>Cents per pound</u>	: <u>Cents per pound</u>	: <u>Cents per pound</u>
Alfalfa	: 60.5	: 113.4	: N.A.
Clover, Red	: 38.6	: 83.2	: 28.3
Clover, Crimson	: 23.4	: 42.3	: 45.4
Vetch	: 10.6	: 15.1	: <u>2/</u> 12.6
Forage Peas	: 6.4	: 10.6	: N.A.
Mohar <u>3/</u>	: 6.0	: 9.8	: N.A.

1/ Committee for Foreign Trade determines exchange rate for imports and exports which presently is 632 dinars per U.S. dollar. However, vegetable, forage and flower seeds are given a rate of 50% higher to stimulate exports or (948 per U.S. dollar).

2/ Spring vetch; only small quantity of hairy vetch exported at 10 cents per pound.

3/ Hungarian millet.

Forage Crop Seeds: Yugoslavian exports by country of destination,
specified periods

Kind of seed and country of destination	1937	1938	1955	1956	Jan-Sept. 1957
	<u>1,000</u> <u>pounds</u>	<u>1,000</u> <u>pounds</u>	<u>1,000</u> <u>pounds</u>	<u>1,000</u> <u>pounds</u>	<u>1,000</u> <u>pounds</u>
Alfalfa:					
Austria	617	-	-	-	-
Germany, West	265	1,131	-	-	-
Denmark	0	227	-	-	-
United Kingdom	816	-	-	-	-
United States	183	-	-	-	-
Total	1,881	1,358	-	-	-
Red Clover:					
Austria	82	-	95	-	26
Germany, West	209	514	904	-	1,334
United Kingdom	-	-	-	-	397
Italy	-	-	467	-	747
Total	291	514	1,466	-	2,504
Vetch:					
Austria	452	22	-	33	4
Greece	364	397	-	-	0
Germany, West	121	-	170	269	1,221
France	0	-	573	-	0
Total	937	419	743	302	1,225
Other Forage:					
Austria	-	110	-	-	-
France	77	520	-	-	88
Germany, West	-	-	-	-	855
Hungary	154	-	-	-	-
Italy	-	-	-	-	106
Total	231	630	346	-	1,049
TOTAL GRASSES & LEGUMES	3,340	2,921	2,555	302	4,778

Forage and Vegetable Seeds: Yugoslavian imports by type and country of origin, specified periods

Type and Country of Origin	1955	1956	Jan-Sept. 1957
	<u>1,000 pounds</u>	<u>1,000 pounds</u>	<u>1,000 pounds</u>
Alfalfa and Clover <u>1/</u> :			
Italy	60	66	231
Germany, West	-	-	249
France	-	531	143
United Kingdom	-	-	287
Total	60	597	910
Vetch:			
Austria	4	-	-
Italy	29	132	-
Germany, West	24	11	13
United States	-	-	4
Total	57	143	17
Fodder Beet:			
Austria	26	-	-
Italy	73	77	97
Germany, West	-	-	243
Poland	-	44	-
Netherlands	-	-	-
U.S.S.R.	-	317	-
Total	99	438	340
Other Forage:	55	170	126
Total	55	170	126
Vegetable and Spice:			
Germany, West	342	60	326
Other countries	355	24	93
Total	697	84	419
TOTAL FORAGE AND VEGETABLE	968	1,432	1,812

1/ Mostly alfalfa seed.

The area in vetch increased about 60 percent in the postwar period. Hungarian millet (Mohar) production has not increased since it is produced primarily for the domestic market. The area in cowpeas is expected to be increased in the next few years because of a good demand for this seed in West Germany and other European countries.

Grass seed production has been very low but it is expected that meadow and pasture grass seed production will presently be emphasized.

Foreign Trade

The main Yugoslavian export seed is red clover. Exports of vetch seed were large in 1957, but the only market of any importance was West Germany.

There are 4 main enterprises allowed to export or import seeds. These belong to the cooperative business unions in the respective republics.

The Federal Chamber of Agriculture, a quasi-governmental organization, planned to import for the 1957-58 planting season about 16 million pounds of crop seeds, of which 90 percent was Italian wheat seed; more than 100 thousand pounds of vegetable seeds; and about 30,000 begonia plants or bulbs.





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WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

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